Board of Education

Monday, June 8, 2026 Regular Session 7pm
Valdez City Council Chambers, 212 Chenega Ave (corner of Chenega & Fairbanks), A-frame building behind City Hall, Valdez, AK 99686

A. **PRELIMINARIES**
1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Swearing in of Board Members
5. Review of Minutes from the Regular School Board Meeting on May 11, 2026.

B. **PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**
1. Public Comment Guidelines

C. **REPORTS/INTRODUCTIONS**
1. Superintendent Report

D. **CONSENT AGENDA**
1. Approve Personnel Action Report

E. **NEW BUSINESS**
1. Approve 1st Reading Board Review of Policies:
BP 6161.1 Selection and Evaluation of Instructional Materials
2. Discussion of BP 5127: Graduation Ceremonies and Activities

F. **BOARD BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**
1. Comments From Board Members

G. **INFORMATION ITEMS**
1. AASB Completed Policies—See Public Content Notes
2. Budget Revision Special Meeting

H. **FUTURE MEETING DATES**
1. June 15, 2026: Policy Review Committee Meeting 6:10pm - Superintendent Office
2. July 13, 2026: Work Session 6pm/Regular Session 7pm - Council Chambers
3. August 10, 2026: Work Session 6pm/Regular Session 7pm - Council Chambers
4. August 14, 2026: New Employee Orientation
5. August 17, 2026: Policy Review Committee Meeting 6:10pm - Superintendent Office
6. August 17-19, 2026: Teachers return, Inservice days
7. August 20, 2026: First Day of School
8. August 24, 2026: (Optional) Work Session 6pm/Regular Session 7pm - Council Chambers
9. August 31, 2026: Policy Review Committee Meeting 6:10pm - Superintendent Office

I. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**
1. Go Into Executive Session
   - Superintendent Evaluation and Q4 Check In
2. Come Out of Executive Session

J. **POSSIBLE ACTION FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

K. **ADJOURNMENT**
1. Adjourn the Meeting



OATH OF OFFICE

I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Alaska, and that I will honestly, faithfully, and impartially discharge my duties as a school board member to the best of my ability (A.S.14.12.090).

Signature: _____

Print: _____

School Board Meeting Date: _____

Attest: _____

CODE OF ETHICS for SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

This code of ethics expresses the personal ideals which the Valdez City Schools Board of Education believes should guide each School Board member's activities.

In all actions as a School Board member, the member's first commitment is to the wellbeing of our youth. His/her primary responsibility is to every student in the district.

School Board members also have other major commitments to:

- **The Community**. Each School Board member is responsible to all residents of the district and not solely to those who elected him/her; nor solely to any organization to which he/she may belong, or which may have supported his/her election.

- **Individuals**. Each School Board member has a direct concern for every individual in the community. As an integral part of his/her duties, he/she represents the authority and responsibility of government. This authority must be exercised with as much care and concern for the least influential as for the most influential member of the community.

- **Employees**. The School Board member's actions may affect the capability of district employees to practice their trade or profession and should encourage their increasing competence and professional growth.

- **Laws, Policies**. Each School Board member must be aware of, and comply with, the constitutions of State and Nation, the Alaska Education Statutes, other laws pertaining to public education, and the established policies of the district.

- **Decision making**. Each School Board member is obliged by law to participate in decisions pertaining to education in the district. As an elected representative of the people, the School Board member can neither relinquish nor delegate this responsibility to any other individual or group.

- **Individual Feelings and Philosophy**. Every individual School Board member has something to contribute to society.

Understanding and acting upon the foregoing premises, each School Board member shall:

- Consider his/her position on the School Board as a public trust and not use it for private advantage or personal gain.

- Be constantly aware that he/she has no legal authority except when acting as a member of the School Board. School Board members shall present their concerns and concepts through the process of School Board debate. If in the minority of any decision, they shall abide by and support the majority decision. When in the majority, they shall respect divergent opinions.

- Encourage ideas and opinions from the residents of the district and endeavor to incorporate community views into the deliberations and decisions of the School Board.

- Devote sufficient time, thought, and study to proposed actions so as to be able to base decisions upon all available facts and vote in accordance with honest convictions, unswayed by partisan bias of any kind.

- Remember that the basic functions of the School Board are to establish the policies by which district schools are administered and to select the Superintendent or designee and staff who will implement those policies.

- Promote and participate actively in a concerted program of timely exchange of information with all district residents, parents, employees and students.

- Recognize that the deliberations of the School Board in executive session may be released or discussed in public only with School Board approval.

- Make use of opportunities to enlarge his/her potential as a School Board member through participation in educational conferences, workshops and training sessions made available by local, state and national agencies.

Printed Name

Board Member Signature **Date**

Board of Education

Monday, May 11, 2026 Work Session 6-7pm, Regular Session 7pm
Valdez City Council Chambers, 212 Chenega Ave (corner of Chenega & Fairbanks), A-frame building behind City Hall, Valdez, AK 99686

Sonya Ash-Selanoff:	Present
Kalin King:	Present
Scott McCumby:	Present
Dr Kyra Meyer:	Present
Dr Kathleen Todd:	Present
Bryan Vincent:	Present
Carey Wade:	Present

All board members present.

A. PRELIMINARIES

A.1. Call to Order
Discussion: Meeting called to order at 6:59 pm

A.2. Pledge of Allegiance
Discussion: Kalin King led the pledge of allegiance.

A.3. Roll Call

A.4. Reorganization of the Board
Discussion: The following officers were elected to serve on the School Board for the 2026-2027 term:
Kalin King, Board Chair/President
Carey Wade, Vice President
Scott McCumby, Treasurer
Bryan Vincent, Clerk
Dr. Kathleen Todd, Board Member
Sonya Ash-Selanoff, Board Member
Dr. Kyra Meyer, Board Member

The following individuals were appointed to the Policy Review Committee:
Sonya Ash-Selanoff

The following officers were elected to serve on the Policy Review Committee for the 2026-2027 term:
Dr. Kathleen Todd
Dr. Kyra Meyer
Bryan Vincent
Sonya Ash-Selanoff

The following officers were elected to serve on the School Board Facilities Committee for the 2026-2027 term:
Carey Wade
Scott McCumby
Bryan Vincent

A.5. Review of Minutes from the Regular School Board Meeting on April 27, 2026.
Discussion: No meeting minute corrections needed.

B. **PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

B.1. Public Comment Guidelines
Discussion: No public comments.

C. **REPORTS/INTRODUCTIONS**

C.1. Superintendent Report — **Speaker(s):** Jason Weber
Discussion: Jason Weber gave his report, no questions.

C.2. Student Representative Report — **Speaker(s):** Raina Wells
Discussion: Raina Wells gave her report, no questions.

C.3. GMS Principal Report — **Speaker(s):** Amanda Tippetts
Discussion: Amanda Tippetts gave her report, no questions.

C.4. HHES Principal Report — **Speaker(s):** Krista Howell
Discussion: Krista Howell gave her report, no questions.

D. **CONSENT AGENDA** — **Speaker(s):** Jason Weber
Action(s):
I move that the Board approve the Consent Agenda as presented. This motion, made by Dr Kathleen Todd and seconded by Carey Wade, Carried.
Voting Detail:

Sonya Ash-Selanoff:	Yea
Kalin King:	Yea
Scott McCumby:	Yea
Dr Kyra Meyer:	Yea
Dr Kathleen Todd:	Yea
Bryan Vincent:	Yea
Carey Wade:	Yea

Voting Summary: Yea: 7, Nay: 0

D.1. Approve Personnel Action Report

E. **NEW BUSINESS**

E.1. Approve Extracurricular and Activity Contracts for FY27 — **Speaker(s):** Jason Weber
Action(s):
I move that the Board approve the Extracurricular and Activity contracts for FY27 as presented. This motion, made by Dr Kathleen Todd and seconded by Bryan Vincent, Carried.
Voting Detail:

Sonya Ash-Selanoff:	Yea
Kalin King:	Abstain (With Conflict)
Scott McCumby:	Yea
Dr Kyra Meyer:	Yea
Dr Kathleen Todd:	Yea
Bryan Vincent:	Abstain (With Conflict)

Carey Wade:	Abstain (With Conflict)

Voting Summary: Yea: 4, Nay: 0, Abstain (With Conflict): 3
Discussion: Jason Weber gave the report, no questions.

E.2. Approve revised VHS Handbook — **Speaker(s):** David Cronk

Action(s):
I move that the Board approve the revised VHS Handbook for FY27 as presented. This motion, made by Carey Wade and seconded by Scott McCumby, Carried.

Voting Detail:

Sonya Ash-Selanoff:	Yea
Kalin King:	Yea
Scott McCumby:	Yea
Dr Kyra Meyer:	Yea
Dr Kathleen Todd:	Yea
Bryan Vincent:	Yea
Carey Wade:	Yea

Voting Summary: Yea: 7, Nay: 0
Discussion:
Jason Weber presented the revised VHS Handbook, mentioning the printout comments submitted by Dr. Kathy Todd.
Dr. Todd expressed concern that the handbook language was overly negative in tone and suggested incorporating more welcoming and positive language for incoming students while still clearly outlining expectations and policies. Discussion followed regarding the balance between maintaining a clear, concise rulebook and presenting a more positive message to students.
Mr. Weber clarified that additional language regarding Flex Fridays was added to encourage students with failing grades to utilize available academic support resources.
Board members discussed handbook wording related to student expectations, cellphone usage policies, and overall tone. Student Representative Raina Wells stated that students generally view the handbook as a rulebook and emphasized the importance of clear and concise language.
Dr. Krya Meyer expressed support for approving the handbook revisions while allowing administration to make necessary grammatical and wording adjustments.

E.3. Board Meeting Schedule for FY27 — **Speaker(s):** Jason Weber

Action(s):
I move that the Board approve the Board Meeting Schedule for FY27 as presented. This motion, made by Scott McCumby and seconded by Carey Wade, Carried.

Voting Detail:

Sonya Ash-Selanoff:	Yea
Kalin King:	Yea
Scott McCumby:	Yea
Dr Kyra Meyer:	Yea
Dr Kathleen Todd:	Yea
Bryan Vincent:	Yea
Carey Wade:	Yea

Voting Summary: Yea: 7, Nay: 0

Discussion:

Jason Weber gave the report.
Dr. Kathy Todd asked for clarification regarding public notice requirements for optional meetings and expressed concern about whether optional meetings could create scheduling complications.
Mr. Weber clarified that any meeting held would still require public notice in accordance with state requirements, including a minimum 24-hour notice. He stated that meetings would typically be scheduled with sufficient advance notice.
Dr. Todd expressed concern regarding time-sensitive personnel matters requiring board approval, noting that canceled meetings could potentially delay hiring actions.
Mr. Weber responded that such situations would be closely monitored to avoid delays.
Kalin King stated that the purpose of optional meetings would be to avoid holding unnecessarily short meetings when there is limited business to conduct.

E.4. Approve budget amendment #9

Speaker(s): Susan Love

Action(s):

I move that the Board approve the budget amendment #9 as presented. This motion, made by Scott McCumby and seconded by Bryan Vincent, Carried.

Voting Detail:

Sonya Ash-Selanoff:	Yea
Kalin King:	Yea
Scott McCumby:	Yea
Dr Kyra Meyer:	Yea
Dr Kathleen Todd:	Yea
Bryan Vincent:	Yea
Carey Wade:	Yea

Voting Summary: Yea: 7, Nay: 0

Discussion:

Jason Weber gave the report.
Kalin King asked whether the funding was coming from accounts previously designated by the board for those projects.
Mr. Weber clarified that a portion of the funding would come from those designated accounts, while the remainder would come from undesignated

reserves.

E.5. Discussion and Update on Strategic Plan

Speaker(s): Jason Weber

Discussion: Jason Weber gave the report.
Dr. Kathy Todd suggested revising the wording of Goal One to emphasize ensuring a high-quality learning experience for all students, stating that curriculum alignment should serve as one of the means to achieve the goal, but not by itself.
Kalin King expressed support for revising the wording of Goal One. Discussion followed regarding whether the current wording was too limiting and whether additional elements contributing to student achievement should be incorporated into the goal.
Carey Wade stated that curriculum alignment was intentionally emphasized due to its importance within the district's improvement efforts. Scott McCumby cautioned against expanding the goals excessively, stating that the goals should remain concise and easy to remember.
Jon Berkeley commented that the strategic plan was intended to serve as a guiding framework, while the action planning process would provide additional detail and implementation strategies. He noted that the document should remain flexible and subject to periodic revision.
Discussion then moved to Goal Four regarding communication and stakeholder partnerships. Dr. Todd questioned whether the wording should place greater emphasis on two-way communication. Scott McCumby and Dr. Kyra Meyer stated that the goal was intended to focus on district transparency and the consistent delivery of information to stakeholders. Kalin King added that the reference to partnerships with stakeholders reflected the collaborative aspect of communication.
Dr. Todd also raised questions regarding the wording of Goal Five and whether the focus should remain solely on facilities or continue to reference stewardship of district resources more broadly. Discussion followed regarding the role of district resources in maintaining high-quality facilities and ensuring equitable improvements throughout the district.

E.6. Approve 1st Reading Board Review of Policies: BP 6155 Class Examinations/Challenging Courses by Examination

Speaker(s): Jason Weber

Action(s):
I move that the Board approve revised BP-6155 as presented. This motion, made by Dr Kathleen Todd and seconded by Scott McCumby, Tabled.

Voting Detail:

Sonya Ash-Selanoff:	Yea
Kalin King:	Yea
Scott McCumby:	Yea

Dr Kyra Meyer:	Yea
Dr Kathleen Todd:	Yea
Bryan Vincent:	Yea
Carey Wade:	Yea

Voting Summary: Yea: 7, Nay: 0

Discussion:

BP-6155 was removed from the Consent Agenda second reading by Dr. Kathy Todd and returned to first reading under Board Policies.

Dr. Todd raised concerns regarding revised language requiring students to achieve a 90% score to demonstrate mastery when testing out of a course. She stated that mastery may vary depending on the assessment and suggested replacing the specific percentage requirement with language stating that a student must "demonstrate mastery" in order to receive credit.

Discussion followed regarding whether mastery could be consistently defined across departments and academic subjects. Scott McCumby expressed concern regarding the need for clear and defensible standards that could be applied consistently from year to year.

Jason Weber stated that the 90% threshold was intended to reflect a high standard but acknowledged that mastery may differ depending on the subject area and assessment method. He noted that departments or instructors may be better positioned to define mastery standards for their respective courses.

Dr. Kyra Meyer suggested replacing the 90% requirement with language referencing "proficiency or mastery as defined by the department."

Additional discussion occurred regarding maintaining rigorous expectations for students challenging courses while also recognizing students who demonstrate substantial subject knowledge. Amanda Tippetts shared that her district math department had previously discussed similar standards and supported allowing departments to define mastery levels.

David Cronk and Scott McCumby expressed support for maintaining a high standard for students seeking to test out of courses.

Dr. Todd noted that students enrolled in a course may pass with grades below 90% and questioned whether a higher standard should be required for students challenging a course by examination.

Following discussion, Dr. Meyer proposed returning BP-6155 to the policy committee for further review, and the board expressed agreement.

F. **BOARD BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

F.1. Comments From Board Members

Discussion: Sonya Ash-Selanoff:
Kudos to Ms. Gilson and those involved with the "space princess wars" play. My children love to go see the arts and it's always so neat to watch something beyond sports. It was so good me and my kids went and watched it twice. So congratulations to those involved in the play and those seniors that walked through the schools.

Dr. Krya Meyer:
Same things, the play was phenomenal, and I was so excited to watch the senior walk-through. I'm looking forward to being involved with all the events going on these last two weeks. Like Amanda Tippetts had said, any night coming up you can go to a school and find an event.

Dr. Kathleen Todd:
I'd like to shout out those who went to the solo and ensemble and succeeded amazingly. Thank you, Mrs. Norris.

Scott McCumby:
I got to go to the play as well and kudos to all those involved in that program. It's nice to see how that program has grown over the last few years and how many students participate in this program from all walks of life. Congrats to all our graduates and a big thank you to all our teachers and staff as we round out this school year.

Bryan Vincent:
This last weekend a lot of great things happened. I read some personal bests at the track and field meet, congratulations on those. I also got to chaperon the solo and ensemble trip, and it was amazing. Our Valdez buccaneers brought home the academic award for the solo and ensemble with a 3.9 GPA against all the other schools in the state that were there. I will bring up that our next policy meeting on Monday is scheduled on the same night as the scholarship award night at the high school, so I will be attending that.

Carey Wade:
I just want to echo all of those things and reiterate that there are a lot of opportunities right now to support our kids.

Kalin King:
I propose canceling the Policy meeting on the 18th to cancel and reschedule. May 22nd is the last day of school and there is a school leadership institute conference from May 26th through May 29th.

G. **INFORMATION ITEMS**

G.1. AASB Completed Policies—See Public Content Notes

G.2. Year End Celebration - May 15th, 5:30 pm at Kelsey Dock.

G.3. Address change for HHES & District office

H. **FUTURE MEETING DATES**

H.1. May 15, 2026: Year End Celebration! 5:30pm - Kelsey Dock

H.2. May 18, 2026: Policy Review Committee Meeting 6:10pm - Superintendent Office

H.3. May 22, 2026: Last Day of School

H.4. May 26 - May 29, 2026: Alaska School Leadership Institute (ASLI) Conference 2026 Anchorage

H.5. June 8, 2026: Work Session 6pm/Regular Session 7pm - Council Chambers

H.6. June 15, 2026: Policy Review Committee Meeting 6:10pm - Superintendent Office

I. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Discussion: No executive session.

I.1. Go Into Executive Session

I.2. Come Out of Executive Session

J. **POSSIBLE ACTION FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

K. **ADJOURNMENT**

K.1. Adjourn the Meeting

Discussion: Meeting adjourned at 8:23 pm.

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Board Secretary

Office of Superintendent Valdez City Schools

BOARD REPORT

Jun 8, 2026

Goals:

- Currently all certified positions are filled, we are looking for a couple paras, as well as a food services manager.

- The administrative team was able to participate in Leadership Paradigm Training as well as Alaska School Leadership Institute in Anchorage the week of May 26th. The training allowed our team to make plans for next year, work on problems of practices, and focus on the district strategic plan. The team identified Attendance, Writing, Student Lunch Program, and High School Graduation as high priorities going into next school year. The team also identified many others, these were the ones we saw as high priority during our conversations and we are currently working to initiate action plans.
- The city is currently in negotiations with Wolfe Architecture, our selected firm for the high school renovation project. Once terms are finalized, the contract will be presented to the City Council for official authorization. Following approval, the team intends to conduct preliminary planning this summer, with stakeholder engagement sessions likely to coincide with the return of students and staff this fall. This represents a significant milestone for the high school facility improvements.

Engagement

- The HHES Summer reading program starts on June 8th.
- Extended School Year (ESY) will start for our special education students in late July.

SEL

- Graduation at the high school was great this year. Well planned out and the resources worked as they should. Congratulations to the class of 2026.

Concerns

- Student lunch debt is an ongoing issue. I have worked with the administrative team and the policy committee to craft 2 new ARs that address student lunch debt going forward. They are both attached as information items. The primary shift is that starting this fall our student lunch program will be a pay as you go program. I am also recommending that we sunset all bad debt (debt from students who are no longer enrolled) in this fiscal year ($11,000). We will work over the summer and school year to collect current student lunch debt. Each student will start the year at a zero balance for receiving lunch. In the event a student shows up with no lunch or money, the school would provide a snack. We plan to make every attempt to work with families to ensure the student has money on their account for lunch/breakfast or has lunch from home.

Achievement/celebrations

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VCS Legislative Update

- We await the governor's vetoes and/or signing of several bills that I am following. I will update as I learn more.
- The State Tax board set the pipeline valuation at 13 billion dollars. This is a significant increase over the current valuation and will increase what the city is able to fund the schools. The valuation change does not impact the FY27 fiscal year we are about to begin. The change in funding would be in FY28. I will keep you posted.

PERSONNEL ACTION REPORT FOR 2025-2026

June 08, 2026

EMPLOYMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

RESIGNATION OF ADMINISTRATION

EMPLOYMENT OF CERTIFIED PERSONNEL

Amanda Wiese
HHES Teacher
Effective 8/14/2026

RESIGNATION/RETIREMENT CERTIFIED PERSONNEL

EMPLOYMENT OF CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

RESIGNATION/RETIREMENT OF CLASSIFIED PERSONNEL

OTHER CONTRACTS

2025-2026 School Year

Teachers	**51**
Classified*	**56**
Principals	**3**
District Administration	**6**
Total Employees	**116**

(*This is the number of classified personnel working for the district. Several of the employees have part-time hours)

BP 6161.1 Selection and Evaluation of Instructional Materials

Note: *AS 14.18.060 requires boards to have instructional materials reviewed for evidence of sex bias, to use educationally sound, unbiased materials, and to provide training on sex-biased materials. AS 14.08.111 requires school boards to establish procedures for the review of materials, including compliance with AS 14.18.060. The following sample policy may be revised to reflect district philosophy and needs.*

The School Board believes that instructional materials should be selected and evaluated with great care so that they are educationally sound and unbiased. Instructional materials should support the adopted courses of study and meet current curricular goals. Taken as a whole, district instructional materials should present a broad spectrum of knowledge and viewpoints, reflect the ethnic and cultural diversity of our society, and enhance the use of multiple teaching strategies and technologies.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures by which new instructional materials may be requested and subsequently evaluated, together with existing materials. The review of instructional materials shall be coordinated with the overall development and evaluation of the district's curriculum. Teachers, students, parents/guardians and community members shall have the opportunity to recommend instructional materials. The district shall provide training for certificated personnel in the recognition of sex-biased materials.

(cf. 6141 - *Curriculum Development and Evaluation)*

The Superintendent or designee shall establish instructional material evaluation committees. These committees may include parents, community, teachers, administrators and other staff who have subject-matter expertise. Staff members who participate in selecting and/or evaluating instructional materials shall be those most competent for the task because of their professional training, experience and assignments. ~~In addition the Citizen's Curriculum Review Committee shall also review and recommend instructional material to the school board for adoption.~~

Individuals who participate in selecting and evaluating instructional materials shall have no financial interest in the materials being reviewed, recommended, or approved.

(cf. 3315 - Relations with Vendors)

(cf. 9270 - Conflict of Interest)

Recommendations for the adoption and/or withdrawal of instructional materials shall be presented to the Board by the Superintendent and shall include documentation including available data to support the recommendation. All recommended materials shall be displayed and available for public inspection at the district office.

(cf. 1312.2 - Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials)

(cf. 3270 - Sale and Disposal of Books, Equipment and Supplies)

Legal Reference:

ALASKA STATUTES

11.56.100-11.56.130 Bribery and related offenses

14.07.050 Selection of textbooks

14.07.057 Transmittal of textbook selections

14.08.111 Duties

14.14.110 Cooperation with other districts

14.18.060 Discrimination in textbooks and instructional materials prohibited

ALASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

4 AAC 06.550 Review of instructional materials

4 AAC 06.600 Definitions

Revised 1/04

ADOPTED: JUNE 2005

BP 5127 Graduation Ceremonies and Activities

Note: The following policy suggests various options which may be modified to reflect district practice except that the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that graduation ceremonies may not include school-sponsored prayers.

Note: Effective June 30, 2016, the requirement in AS 14.03.075 that a secondary student take a college and career readiness assessment before being issued a diploma is repealed.

High school graduation ceremonies shall be held to recognize those students who have successfully completed the district graduation requirements and earned the right to receive a diploma or a certificate of completion. Students earning a certificate of attendance may also participate in graduation ceremonies.

(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)

(cf. 6146.5 – Differential Requirements for Individuals with Exceptional Needs)

Note: The following optional paragraph may specify whatever number of uncompleted credits the School Board wishes to allow or may be deleted.

At the discretion of the Superintendent or designee, a student who is no more than 2 credits short of fulfilling district credit requirements may participate in graduation exercises without receiving his/her diploma. When the required credits have been earned, a diploma shall be sent to the student by mail.

Note: The following optional paragraph may be used to deny participation in graduation activities. School site rules should indicate what privileges may be denied for what reasons, and the means whereby students may appeal these decisions.

In accordance with school-site rules, the principal may deny a student the privilege of participating in graduation or promotion activities because of misconduct.

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

School-sponsored invocations and/or benedictions shall not be included in graduation ceremonies.

Legal Reference:

ALASKA STATUTES

14.03.075 College and Career readiness assessment; retroactive issuance of diploma

14.03.090 Sectarian or denominational doctrines prohibited

UNITED STATES CODE

Elementary and Secondary Education Act, 20 U.S.C. § 9524, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act, P.L. 114-95

Santa Fe Indep. Sch. Dist. v. Doe, 530 U.S. 290 (2000)

Lee v. Weisman, 505 U.S. 577 (1992)

Revised 4/2022

Revised 2/2023

Revised 1/2026

AR 3550.1 Food Service Debt

Purpose
This regulation establishes procedures for the collection, accounting, and disposition of unpaid meal charges in accordance with federal and state requirements governing school nutrition programs.

Collection Procedures
The district shall make reasonable efforts to collect unpaid meal charges from parents/guardians.

Collection efforts may include:

- Written notices
- Electronic communications
- Telephone calls
- Payment plan arrangements

Students shall not be used as the primary means of debt collection.

Payment Plans
The Food Service Director is authorized to establish repayment plans for households experiencing financial hardship.

Classification as Bad Debt
If an unpaid meal charge remains uncollected and the district determines that additional collection efforts would be ineffective or cost prohibitive, the debt may be classified as bad debt.

Any remaining unpaid debt shall be reviewed at the close of each fiscal year and may be written off in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and applicable federal regulations.

Restoration of Food Service Funds
Because bad debt is an unallowable cost to the nonprofit school food service account, any debt written off shall be restored using allowable non-federal funding sources, including:

- District general funds.
- Donations from parent organizations or student groups.
- Community charitable contributions.
- Other non-federal sources permitted by law.

Recordkeeping
The district shall maintain documentation of:

- Collection efforts.
- Repayment agreements.

• Debt write-offs.
• Transfers used to restore the food service account.

Records shall be retained for the current year plus three additional years, or longer if required by law.

Administrative Responsibility
The Superintendent or designee shall oversee implementation of this regulation and ensure compliance with all federal and state requirements governing unpaid meal charges.

Updated 6/4/2026

Valdez City Schools

AR 3550 Student Meal Service and Account Management

Purpose
The Valdez City School District participates in the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program to ensure students have access to nutritious meals that support learning and well-being.

Meal Accounts
To participate in the school breakfast and lunch program, students must have either:

- A prepaid meal account balance established by credit card, check, or cash; or
- Eligibility for free or reduced-price meals.

Parents/guardians may add funds to student meal accounts at the district office or school office by cash or check. In-person or over the phone credit card transactions can be done with the district office. Online payment information is available on the district website under the Online Meal Payment tab: https://www.valdezcityschools.org/departments/business-services/nutrition-services.

Free and Reduced-Price Meals
Applications for free and reduced-price meals shall be available at every school office, the district office, and on the district website. Families may apply at any time during the school year.

Students qualified for Free and Reduced Meals are entitled to one reimbursable breakfast and one reimbursable lunch per school day. At GMS and VHS, second portions or a la carte items are not covered by this program and will be charged at the regular price and are subject to the prepaid account requirements.

Student Access to Meals
Students with a negative balance will not receive a full reimbursable meal. Students with a negative balance will be provided with a snack.

No Student Shaming
District employees shall not take actions that identify, stigmatize, or embarrass students because of unpaid meal charges. Prohibited practices include, but are not limited to:

- Requiring students to wear identifying markers.
- Publicly identifying students with unpaid balances.
- Requiring students to perform work or chores in exchange for meals.
- Restricting participation in school activities due to meal debt.

Account Notifications
The district will make every effort to communicate directly with parents/guardians, rather than students, regarding meal account balances.

• Low balance reminders may be sent electronically.
• Negative balance notifications may be sent as electronic or written communication or by phone call.
• All communications regarding unpaid meal charges shall include information about free and reduced-price meal eligibility.

Policy Communication
Information regarding meal account procedures and unpaid meal charges shall be:

• Published on the district website.
• Included in student enrollment materials.
• Distributed annually with free and reduced-price meal application materials.

Updated 6/4/2026

Valdez City Schools